

Sandra M. Gilbert, professor of English at the University of California, Davis, in her essay "Plain Jane's Progress" (1977), suggests that Charlotte Brontë intended *Jane Eyre* to resemble John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* in that Jane's pilgrimage through a series of events based on the enclosure and escape motif eventually lead toward the equality that Brontë herself sought. Gilbert supports this conclusion by using the structure of the novel to highlight the places Jane has been confined, the changes she undergoes during the process of escape, and the individuals and experiences that lead to her maturation concluding that "this marriage of true minds at Ferndean – this is the way" (501). Her purpose is to help readers see the role of women in Victorian England in order to help them understand the uniqueness and daring of Brontë's work. She establishes a formal relationship with her audience of literary scholars interested in feminist criticism who are familiar with the work of Brontë, Bunyan, Lord Byron and others and are intrigued by feminist theory as it relates to Victorian literature.

#### MAIN POINT

#### PURPOSE

#### HOW/TECHNIQUE

To establish a credible *ethos*, Phillips begins by establishing his knowledge of history through his references to Napoleon. He also contributes to an *ethos* of dedicated patriotism and appeals to his audience's emotions of patriotic empathy, providing a personal appeal to this American audience by acknowledging that their hearts are inscribed with a nationalistic pride in founder George Washington.

The passage begins with a series of very strong and powerful images of the black people in the courthouse, who are standing in the back "Packed tight like a case of celery." This simile produces the feeling that these people are strong, standing strong and straight and tall. They are stern, unmoving and unbending, and they are all "against her." Hurston emphasizes this idea - the idea that the blacks are all against Janie - by repeating the phrase twice.